



This document is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on 10/31/2011 and available online at <http://federalregister.gov/a/2011-28067>.

*Billing Code 3410-20

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

October 26, 2011

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C.; OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of publication of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

TITLE: Agricultural Resource Management, Chemical Use, and Post-harvest Chemical Use Surveys

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0535-0218

SUMMARY OF COLLECTION: The primary objectives of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) are to provide the public with timely and reliable agricultural production and economic statistics, as well as environmental and specialty agricultural related statistics. Three surveys – the Agricultural Resource Management Study, the Fruit and Vegetable Chemical Use Surveys, and the Post-harvest Chemical Use Survey – are critical to NASS’ ability to fulfill these objectives and to build the Congressionally mandated database on agricultural chemical use and related farm practices. NASS uses a variety of survey instruments to collect the information in conjunction with these studies.

NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION: The Agricultural Resource Management Study provides a robust data base of information to address varied needs of policy makers. There are many uses for the information from this study including an evaluation of the safety of the Nation’s food supply; input to the farm sector portion of the gross domestic product; and to provide a barometer on the financial condition of farm businesses. Data from the Fruit and Vegetable Chemical Use Surveys is used to assess the environmental and economic implications of various program and policies and the impact on agricultural producers and consumers. The results of the Post-harvest Chemical Use Survey are used by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop Food Quality Protection Act risk assessments. Other organizations use this data to make sound regulatory decisions.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Farms

*Billing Code 3410-20

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 135,583

FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES: Reporting: Annually

TOTAL BURDEN HOURS: 79,731

Charlene Parker
Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer

[FR Doc. 2011-28067 Filed 10/28/2011 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 10/31/2011]